

Texas Vaccines for Children

gives children access to immunizations in their medical home



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

We need your help to ensure a healthy future for children in Texas.

The state of Texas has participated in the Federal Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) since its inception in 1994. Our version of this program is called Texas Vaccines for Children Program (TVFC). The program was initiated by the passage of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993. This legislation guaranteed that vaccines would be available at no cost to providers in order to immunize eligible children (birth – 18 years of age).

Texas leads the nation in the number of uninsured and underinsured children. We also have more than three million Texas children on Medicaid (Federal Fiscal Year 2018 data).

Many of these children are not receiving the complete series of immunizations required to protect them from vaccine-preventable diseases. Today, more than 9,000 Texas providers in more than 3,000 clinics are enrolled in TVFC. We invite you to join them by enrolling.

By enrolling in TVFC, you can provide innumerable benefits to families in your practice and to the people of Texas. One of the most important benefits is removing barriers to immunizations; for example, you will no longer have to refer an uninsured child to a public health clinic for immunizations.

TVFC removes the burden of the financial cost of vaccines, thereby eliminating the need to refer clients. Children are then kept in their “medical home,” which is beneficial to the provider and client. Families who are currently paying for vaccinations may be TVFC eligible.

Vaccines are supplied to enrolled clinics at no cost. A TVFC-enrolled clinic may not charge for the vaccine, but is permitted to charge an administration fee.

An additional benefit of joining the TVFC program is the ability to bill clients for an administration fee for non-Medicaid/non-CHIP patients. Staff at a TVFC-enrolled site also receive free training and education and have access to an automated vaccine ordering and reporting system. They also receive support from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Immunization Unit staff.

Providers continue to serve the same populations they have always served. Except now, through enrollment in the TVFC, more children will be receiving their complete series of immunizations. This benefits everyone by maintaining a higher level of immunity in our community. TVFC automatically covers all vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

A fully immunized society is necessary to reach optimum eradication of vaccine-preventable infectious diseases. With your help we can reach these goals, leading to a healthier Texas.

Questions?

Contact us at (800) 252-9152
or email TVFCenrollment@dshs.texas.gov.

Enroll now.

If you are not enrolled in TVFC, please consider doing so. The process is simple:

- complete online policy and practice training
 - receive free technical assistance
 - fill out a Provider Agreement
 - agree to screen for eligibility
 - agree to maintain screening records, and agree to maintain vaccine safety and inventory.
- Under TVFC, children (birth – 18 years of age) in these groups should receive free vaccines:

 - Medicaid eligible
 - Does not have health insurance
 - Is American Indian or Alaskan native
 - Enrolled in the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the provider bills CHIP for the services
 - Is underinsured: has commercial (private) health insurance, but does not cover vaccines; health insurance only covers select vaccines (TVFC eligible for non-covered vaccines only)



Every Dose Matters.

With your help, we can eradicate vaccine-preventable diseases.

*Enroll now. Call (800) 252-9152
TVFCenrollment@dshs.texas.gov*

Resources

- **TVFC information for providers:** <http://dshs.texas.gov/immunize/tvfc/info-for-providers.aspx>
Includes a TVFC Provider Manual which can be found by clicking on the “Forms & Publications” link in the left menu.
- **TVFC website:** dshs.texas.gov/immunize/tvfc
- **Immunization forms and literature:** <https://secure.ImmunizeTexasOrderForm.com>
- **Immunization website:** ImmunizeTexas.com
- **ImmTrac2, the Texas Immunization Registry:** ImmTrac.com
Consolidates patients’ immunization records in one centralized electronic system and provides online access to patients’ immunization histories.

